

MEMC 02-0400(3053)  
PATENT**REMARKS**

Applicants have carefully considered the Examiner's remarks and have amended the application in light thereof. Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 2-8, 10, 11, 13-18, and 20-23 contain allowable subject matter. By this Amendment A, claims 1, 9, 12, and 19 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-23 are now pending in the application. Reconsideration of the application claims as amended and in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

**Claim Rejections based on 35 U.S.C §112**

Claims 1, 9, 12, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 112 due to insufficient antecedent basis for a claimed limitation. More specifically, the Examiner asserts that each of claims 1, 9, 12, and 19 include the limitation "Czochralski process" and that there is insufficient antecedent basis for this claimed limitation. As suggested by the Examiner, applicants have amended each of the claims 1, 9, 12, and 19 to have proper antecedence by inserting the word "a" before the word "Czochralski." Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 9, 12, and 19 are now in compliance with 35 U.S.C § 112, and, thus are in condition for allowance.

**Claim Objections**

Claims 2-8, 10, 11, 13-18, and 20-23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. However, since amended independent claims are compliance with 35 U.S.C § 112, applicants submit that the remaining dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as the claims from which they depend.

**Summary and Concluding Remarks**

For the reasons noted above, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-23 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or overpayment of any required fee during the entire pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted



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